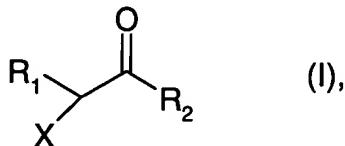


A 2

6. (amended) A process for the preparation of a polymer or block copolymer (V), wherein R₁, R₂, A, B, X, x, y and m are as defined in claim 1, in which process ethylene-group-containing aliphatic monomers that form the basis of the polymer blocks A and B are subjected to a polymerisation reaction by atom transfer radical polymerisation (ATRP) in the presence of an α -halocarboxylic acid ester of formula



as polymerisation initiator, wherein R₁, R₂ and X are as defined in claim 1, and in the presence of an oxidisable transition metal complex catalyst.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending. Claims 4 and 6 have been amended by replacement. Said claims have been amended to correct dependency, to provide minor clarification and reduce filing fees by eliminating multiple dependencies. No other claims have been amended. No new matter has been added. No claims have been added.

Another version of the amended claims, showing the changes relative to the previous version, is appended. Underlining shows additions. Deletions are shown by strikethrough rather than bracketing since the claims may contain bracketing that is to remain.

Applicants aver that the claims are now in proper form for examination. An Action on the merits of the claims is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,


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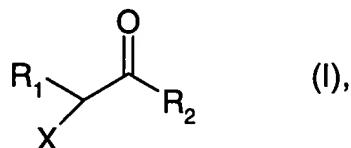
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Marked-up Version of Amended Claims 4 and 6

4. (amended) A polymer composition comprising a polymer or block copolymer (V) according to claim 81, wherein R₁, R₂, A, B, x, y and m are as defined in claim 1, and at least one additive additives customary in polymer compositions.

6. (amended) A process for the preparation of a polymer or block copolymer (V), wherein R₁, R₂, A, B, X, x, y and m are as defined in claims 1-and 8, in which process ethylene-group-containing aliphatic monomers that form the basis of the polymer blocks A and B are subjected to a polymerisation reaction by atom transfer radical polymerisation (ATRP) in the presence of the-an α -halocarboxylic acid ester of formula



as polymerisation initiator, wherein R₁, R₂ and X are as defined above in claim 1, and in the presence of an oxidisable transition metal complex catalyst.